

Message

From: InsideEPA.com [insideepa-alerts@iwpnews.com]
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To: Woods, Clint [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bc65010f5c2e48f4bc2aa050db50d198-Woods, Clint]
Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- April 26, 2018



REDEFINING EPA: Overhauling an agency and its mission -- Complete coverage

April 26, 2018

Latest News

Expecting New TSCA Resources, OPPT Proposes New Reorganization Plan

Responding to staff concerns, EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) has delayed its ongoing reorganization effort to propose a revised plan that relies on OPPT leadership being able to hire sufficient

number of new scientists to fill a second risk analysis division to bolster chemical assessments required by the reformed Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

EPA Faulted For Justifying Oil & Gas CTG Repeal By Citing Methane NSPS

Environmentalists are criticizing EPA for justifying its proposed withdrawal of oil and gas sector volatile organic compound (VOC) reduction guidelines by saying the CTG are “fundamentally linked” to methane and VOC standards for new oil and gas drilling that EPA is reconsidering, previewing possible lawsuit arguments if EPA finalizes the withdrawal.

House Lawmakers Seek Expedited EPA Rulemaking For PFAS Standard

A bipartisan group of House lawmakers, whose districts are affected by drinking water contaminants such as perfluorinated chemicals, is urging appropriators to adopt report language that requires EPA to conduct an expedited rulemaking to craft a standard for the substances, pushing back on agency concerns that such an effort could drag on for years.

Pruitt's Backing For High-Octane Standard May Boost GOP Bid For RFS Fix

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt says creating a national standard for higher octane in motor fuel is a “tremendous idea” that would benefit ethanol, farm, and auto industries, support that could bolster a push by some House GOP lawmakers to use the standard as a fix for what they see as problems with the agency's renewable fuel standard (RFS).

Pruitt's Testimony Focuses On FY19 Cuts But He Also Plans Ethics Defense

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's testimony for a high-profile April 26 hearing makes the case for the Trump administration's fiscal year 2019 budget request that seeks to cut EPA's budget by 25 percent, while ignoring the litany of Pruitt's spending and ethics scandals, but a leaked document shows he is planning to defend his actions by blaming political and career staff.

'Cooperative' Policy Might Spur EPA To Send Enforcement Cases To States

ORLANDO, FL -- EPA might send some enforcement cases already in its pipeline back to states to prosecute or otherwise resolve due to Administrator Scott Pruitt's “cooperative federalism” policy of giving greater deference to states on environmental protection, but is finding that some cases are too advanced for EPA to drop its participation.

Daily Feed

CREW seeks IG inquiry into 'broken' EPA ethics process

“The clearly inadequate handling of the numerous, increasingly outrageous ethical issues that have recently come to light suggests that the process is broken,” says the group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

Whitehouse asks for EPA air chief Wehrum's recusal statement

EPA air chief William Wehrum faces calls from a top Senate Democrat to provide the agreement detailing his recusal from Clean Air Act issues he previously worked on as an industry attorney.

Pruitt on Capitol Hill

Complete coverage of Administrator Scott Pruitt's April 26 appearances before two House committees.

Quote-Unquote: On science, climate change, biomass and NAAQS

EPA issues long-awaited policies on “secret science” and biomass.

EPA official says Superfund reform agenda remains in flux

EPA's Superfund enforcement chief says the 42 task force recommendations to overhaul that program are still subject to change and will likely be winnowed down, but with no clear deadline for doing so.

House Democrats seek GAO review of EPA enforcement

The lawmakers are concerned that "policies to 'streamline' permitting processes, reduce regulatory 'burdens' for industry, and defer to states on enforcement will lead to more environmental law violations."

Ewire: White House takes a tougher line with Pruitt ahead of hearing

In today's Ewire: Tensions between EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt and the Trump White House over Pruitt's alleged ethics scandals appear to be heightening just one day before the administrator is slated to appear before two House committees.

EPA defends discretion in setting 2017 RFS targets

EPA in a new legal filing is rejecting attacks on its process for setting the 2017 renewable fuel standard targets, saying a federal appeals court should defer to its discretion in how it sets the goals.

Read all the latest EPA news, analysis and documents →

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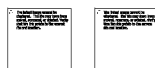
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